

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : [REDACTED] Chairman, IWG

DATE: Sept. 3, 1954

FROM : Spencer Beresford, FOA/MDAC

25X1A9a

SUBJECT: Statement by Ville Pessi, Secretary General of the Finnish Communist Party, at a secret Communist meeting in Oslo, March 21, 1953, Request for Translation and Evaluation of

An article in The American Legion Magazine of September, 1954, by Victor Lasky entitled "Russia's Golden Bullet" gave a direct quotation by Ville Pessi concerning Soviet trade strategy toward Finland. The following facts about this statement were obtained from Antoine Nyerges, OIR, State Department:

1. Lasky's citation was based on an article in the Finnish newspaper, Uusi Suomi, March 6, 1954.
2. This newspaper article only indirectly quoted Pessi, but said the report was based on reliable sources; it reported that the secret meeting in Oslo was held on March 21, 1953.

Because Pessi's statement has been made public and is so forthright in expressing Communist intentions, the following information would be very useful for MDAC public reports:

1. A full translation of the article in Finnish newspaper, Uusi Suomi, March 6, 1954;
2. A determination of the validity and accuracy of the reported statement by Ville Pessi.

Although this information is not needed for any specific deadline, it would be appreciated if it could be obtained at an early date. Please send the translation separately if it is completed before the determination.

CC: S. Beresford
M. Hall
H. Lincoln
M. Bucy

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~